

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of selectively recovering nodes on a computer network having a plurality of paths connected to adapters on at least one host computer for managing input/output (I/O) requests between the host computer and fibre channel devices (FIDs) having a plurality of logical units (LUNs) associated therewith, comprising:

detecting an exception condition in a network, said detection being done with computer connected to the network, and having an operating system thereon programmed for detecting exception conditions;

recovering only the adapters, FIDs and LUNs within the scope of the exception condition; and

issuing I/O requests to adapters, FIDs and LUNs during recovery that are not within the scope of the exception condition.

2. – 4. (Canceled)

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

detecting if an adapter is in an unrecoverable state; and

if the adapter is unrecoverable, aborting recovery on the adapter and the FIDs and LUNs associated with the adapter.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising:

setting an adapter state to an unrecoverable state if adapter recovery is not successful.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

detecting if a FID is in an unrecoverable state; and

if the FID is unrecoverable, aborting recovery on the FID and the LUNs associated with the FID.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising:

setting the FID state to an unrecoverable state if the FID recovery is not successful.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

setting the LUN state to an unrecoverable state if the LUN recovery is not successful.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

if recovering an adapter, FID, or LUN is unsuccessful, retrying the recovery; and
if the recovery has been retried a number of times, marking the adapter, FID, or LUN as unrecoverable.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the computer network includes a fabric switch.

12. (Currently Amended) A method of recovering nodes in a hierarchical computer network, comprising:

detecting an exception condition in a network, said detection being done with a computer connected to the network and having an operating system thereon programmed for detecting exception conditions;
recovering only the nodes within the scope of the exception condition ; and
issuing input/output (I/O) requests to nodes during recovery that are not within the scope of the exception condition.

13. (Original) The method of claim 12, wherein the computer network has a hierarchical structure and said recovering is processed sequentially starting from the top of the hierarchy.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

detecting if a node on the network is in an unrecoverable state;
if the node is unrecoverable, aborting recovery on the node and all nodes beneath the unrecoverable node in the hierarchical structure.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising:

if recovery of a node is unsuccessful, retrying the recovery; and
if the recovery has been retried a number of times, marking the node as unrecoverable.

16. (Original) The method of claim 13, further comprising, setting the node state to an unrecoverable state if recovery is not successful.

17. (Currently Amended) A computer system for recovering devices on a computer network, comprising:

at least one computer connected on a fibre channel network;
at least one adapter associated with the computer managing paths on the fibre channel network to multiple devices connected on the network; and
an operating system resident on the computer programmed to detect exception conditions relating to adapters, LUNs or devices, to recover only the adapters LUNs or devices within the scope of the exception condition, and to issue input/output (I/O) to adapters, LUNs or devices that are not within the scope of the exception condition.

18. (New) The computer system of claim 17, wherein said operating system is further programmed for recovering adapters, FIDs on LUNs within the scope of the exception conditions by, 1) if an adapter needs to be recovered, recovering the adapter before recovering FIDs or LUNs associated with the adapter, 2) if an FID needs to be recovered, recovering the FID before recovering LUNs associated with the FID, and 3) recovery LUN's only if an FID and adapter associated with the LUN's are not in need of recovery.

19. (New) The computer system of claim 18, wherein said operating system is further programmed for detecting if an adapter, FID or LUN is in an irrecoverable state; and if the adapter, FID or LUN is unrecoverable, for aborting recovery on the adapter and the FID's and LUNs associated with the adapter, and the FID or LUN which is unrecoverable.

20. (New) The computer system of claim 19, wherein said operating system is further programmed for retrying recovery of an adapter, FID or LUN if recovery is unsuccessful; and if the recovery has been retried a number of times, for marking the adaptor, FID or LUN as unrecoverable.

21. (New) A method of selectively recovering nodes on a computer network having a plurality of paths connected to adapters on at least one host computer for managing input/output (I/O) requests between the host computer and fibre channel devices (FIDs) having a plurality of logical units (LUNs) associated therewith, comprising:

detecting an exception condition in a network, said detection being done with a computer connected to the network and having an operating system thereon programmed for detecting exception conditions;

recovering the adapters, FIDs or LUNs within the scope of the exception condition, said recovering being conducted by, 1) if an adapter needs to be recovered, recovering the adapter before recovering FIDs or LUNs associated with the adapter, 2) if an FID needs to be recovered, recovering the FID before recovery LUNs associating with the FID, and 3) recovering LUNs only if an FID and adapter associated with the LUNs are not in need of recovery; and

issuing I/O requests to adapters, FIDs and LUNs during recovery that are not within the scope of the exception condition.

22. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
detecting if an adapter is in an unrecoverable state;
if the adapter is unrecoverable, aborting recovery on the adapter and FIDs and LUNs associated with the adapter; and
setting the adapter state to an unrecoverable state if the adapter recovery is not successful.

23. (New) The method of claim 21, further comprising:
if recovering an adapter, FID, or LUN is unsuccessful, retrying the recovery; and
if the recovery has been retried a number of times, marking the adapter, FID, or LUN as unrecoverable.